

Berserker 29

March 20, 1975

BERSERKER was a Diplomacy zine published by Doug Ronson, 864 Ingersoll Ct. Mississauga, Ont. L5J 2S1.. Subscriptions to the zine were 7/\$1.00.

The reason why the above paragraph is written in the past tense is that Berserker is being laid off. The reasons for the lay off are that I am finding it expensive to run for only 25 people. Also, I feel that my great writing skills (Zaabar here: I've just got to interrupt this to have a good laugh at that bit about "great writing skills"! Doug is such a whit!) are being wasted.

What will happen to the games you ask? All games are to be transfered to Paroxysm. Paroxysm will become ~~bi~~ weekly with odd numbered issues being put out by myself and even numbered issues being put out by Robert Correll as before.. There will be no extra charge to players except that subscriptions will be converted to the Paroxysm sub. rate of 10/\$2.00 on the basis of 15¢ per issue of Berserker remaining to 20¢ per issue of Paroxysm. Extra costs will be rounded off in favour of the subscriber.. For example; if you have 2 issues of Berserker left you have a 30¢ credit. Therefore you receive 2 issues of Paroxysm @ 20¢ each and I pay the extra 10¢. Players in 1973GP will receive Paroxysm free until the end of the game..

Deadlines in Paroxysm will be approximately 25 days apart. Two seasons are recognized: 1. Winter/Spring with the latter conditional on the former and on any fall retreats, and 2. Fall moves conditional on Spring retreats.

All TRADES are cancelled. Paroxysm does not trade but suggests a policy of mutual subscription.

SUBSCRIBERS will receive issues of Paroxysm as explained above.

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LETTERS: From Roland Prévot: I was infuriated after reading in 'Berserker 28' the letter from your relative living in Paris, not because I was hurt in my national pride (of which I am rather lacking), but because the letter is so obviously biased. It does not demonstrate anything, it only reveals the writer's personal scornful attitude towards Frenchmen (they are dirty, illiterate, and so on) and a deliberate refusal to adapt to another life-style (perhaps born from the knowledge that everything is so much better at home). And I was dumbfounded by the naivety of your own final comment, as it showed that you accepted as true everything that was said in this letter, without second thoughts. ((Perhaps I was being naive but I think that Canadians take for granted alot of things that we have and I was trying to show that we are lucky to have what we have now.))

*CORRECTION bi-monthly

In fact, all its arguments may be contested. For instance, the statistics about 40% of the Parisians not having indoors W.C. and 25% not having running water are completely ridiculous. The only possible explanation is that your relative has confused the figures with those of another city (New Dehli, Bombay,.... how could I know?), and, even then, I can hardly imagine anybody living in the same city as I saying that with a straight face. And I do not think any general conclusion may be drawn for the rest: it is only a relation of some personal experiences of your relative. Some might have happened anywhere (as his quarrels with his manager), some are just a result of bad luck. Nothing of what happened to him ever happened to me, and I have been living in Paris for nearly all my life (some 24 years of it) The extent of the anti-French prejudice of your relative may be measured by this one sentence: "the value of French education may be judged from the fact that after two terms at Ladycross, Victor wrote better English than French". ((I don't really see how this indicates his anti-French prejudice - perhaps I should explain that Victor is not English but Korean and spoke only Korean when he arrived in France. I can also see that Roland's point might be that Victor found English easier to learn than French. I can certainly agree as I find French much easier than German.))

So, contrary to your relative, I do not think French are dirty, illiberal and dumb in general ((Neither do I!)). Although I believe I could adapt myself to living in any foreign city without always sighing: "everything was so tremendously better in Paris", I enjoy living here. Probably because most of my friends live here too, probably because the city is beautiful and I know it so well, probably for some other reasons too, that I cannot define because I lack a comparison with any other city.

((I thank Roland for setting us straight on conditions in France. No more comments for now))

My brother, Jim, seems to think for sentimental reasons that Berserker should continue, and has asked that I put the following poll in this issue:
..... CUT ON DOTTED LINE.....

- A. I think Berserker should be continued in the same form as it has in the past...Yes _____ No _____.
- B. I think that Berserker should become defunct and that Doug should GM all of his games in Paroxysm only...Yes _____ No _____.
- C. I think that Berserker should become a zine for games of the revised Viking Variant (which will appear soon, by the way), its press and Viking articles...Yes _____ No _____.
- D. Other - please specify:

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1973GP DEADLOCK CONTINUES! RUSSIA FINALLY REALIZES THE FUTILITY OF HIS ACTIONS AND CALLS FOR A DRAW!

Winter/Autumn 1907* Austria builds a vie; French a pie retreats to Mar.
Spring 1908

Austria (Richard Kukan) a vie-tri, a nap-rom, a rom-tus, a ven s rom-tus, a pie s rom-tus, a tyl s russian a sil-ber (imp), f tri-adr, f apu-nap

England (Laurence Gillespie) f mid-wme, f wme-tyr, f bot-liv, s stp s botliv
f nwy s stp, f bal s French f ber h, a den orders pastry

France (Brian Clogg) a hol-kie, a ruh s mun, a mun h, a bur s mun, a mar-pie, a spa h, a naf h, f tun-ion, f tus h, f lyo s tus, f ber h

1973GP (cont'd)

Russia (Larry Doble) a sil-ber, a pru s sil-ber, a liv s pruk, war s liv, a mos s liv, f ion h, a gal-sil

We have a proposal for a 4 way draw between all countries. Please vote on that. Failure to vote means 'no'!

Press BBC (British Bunker Corporation) - And back in jolly old England, its Prime time again, and all over the country, millions of British TV viewers are settling down for a good hilarious half our (pronounced hour in America) of All in the Family. See Archie as he mouths more expletive about the quality of Russian democracy. ((To be honest I've never heard Archie talk about the Russian government as being a "democracy"!)) See Edith as she strives vainly to keep A warsaw and A New York from tearing each other apart. ((?)) See Gloria as she dons a false nose and becomes Miss Polack of the year- 1908. See all this and more on your favourite "English Channel" (E*N*G*), the choice of over 90% of the country's naval officers including Admiral RCA Victor. As for the Russians settling into their Bunkers, they don't have any, as All in the Family is banned in Russia, being deemed offensive to the local communist party there.

Zaabar: To be honest, I don't think All in the Family can be seen on BBC television - it seems that the Limeys wouldn't get the bigotted jokes! Wiesbaden - Recent reports have been trickling out of the iron curtain countries ((that's interesting considering that the phrase "Iron Curtain" was not invented until 1945)) of a strange and terrible new disease that has been wiping out Russian soldiers in drowes! It is called Siliphus (((and seems to have been brought by the first Russians to discover Germany- in 1891. Over 100,000 Russians have died from it already and there appears little hope in sight for them as British medical authorities believe that the only possible cure would involve an immediate amputation, or failing that, withdrawal from the infected region - Silesia, to permit British medical officers to come in and accomplish a miracle cure. Russians are not covered under Medicare, the bill for these services would not be cheap. However, the surgeon-general has offered to accept the city of Moscow as down payment for the treatment. Of course, this will not in any way purchase a cure for the neurosis suffered by virtually everyone in the Russian high command, as modern medical experts agree that a a cure for this would cost more than the entire Russian nation, whose only national products consist of Goat's milk and Russian transient workers..

1974HF Fall 1902 GERMAN FLEET IN NORTH SEA! RUSSIA STABS TURKEY!

Austria (Ron Ford) a gal-vie, a bud-tri, f alb-ion, f gre s alb-ion, a ser s f gre.

England (David Truman) f lon s f nth, f nth s Russian f swe-den (nso) /d/ r- Ska, yor, edi, nwg, otb; a nwy goes skiing (h) /d/ r-fin, otb, f iri-wal

France (Jim Lawson) a bur-mar, a spa-mar, f eng s German f hel-nth, f bre-mao.

Germany (Laurence Gillespie) a den s Russian f swe h, a tyl-ven, f hel-nth, f hol s hel-nth, a bel h, f kie-hel.

Italy (Sharon Currie) a tus-ven, a pie s tus-ven, f tyr-lyo, f wme-spasc

Russia (Jelle Terpstra) a stp-nwy, f swe s stp-nwy, ~~x~~ a war-ukr, a ukr-rum f rum-bla, f sev s rum-bla

Turkey (Larry Doble) f aeg-ion, f bla s bul, a bul s Russian f rum h (nso) a con s bul

Supply Centres:

A: Vie, tri, bud, ser, gre: 5 Centres - Even

E: 3 Centres; edi, lvp, lon: Remove 1 or even if nwy disbands

F: 4 Centres: bre, par, mar, - - - spa; Even

1974HF (cont'd)

G: 6 Centres: bel, hol, den, mun, ber, kie - Even

I: 4 Centres: tun, nap, rom, ven - Even

R: 7 Centres: stp, war, mos, sev, rum, swe, nwy - Build 1

T: 4 Centres: bul, con, ank, smy - Even or build 1 if Bla disbands.

Portugal is still unowned!

The Deadline for Winter/Spring in Hf and Fall in GP is four weeks in order to line it up for Paroxysm, April 18, 1975.

My apologies for this issue being a day later than usual - my excuses are that I have been busy with schoolwork which must take priority.

I could write some closing words here but I would rather you read my opening words in Paroxysm. Subs are 10/\$2.00 and payable to Harry Drew, P.O. Box 282, Kitchener, Ont. N2G 3X9.

Oh, yes and my apologies for the terrible typing of this issue but at this point I am too tired to care!

I might as well sign off with a cheery...

CHIMO BIS!

DOUG: PLEASE NOTE THAT THESE
GAMES WILL APPEAR NEXT IN PAROXYSM
NO. 5

Doug

Doug Ronson
864 Ingersoll Ct.
Mississauga, Ont.
CANADA, L5J 2S1



FIRST CLASS MAIL

FIRST CLASS MAIL

TO:



DOUG BEYERLEIN

330 CURTNER AVE. APT 8

PALO ALTO, CALIF.

94306

USA